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LB 407, 440

you clearly what the facts are here. Let me say, by way of preface, that we had a meeting this morning with most, if not all, of the interested parties on this bill and we were not able to come to complete agreement, so we decided that we would...that an orderly way to do this would be to present one and possibly two amendments. This is the first of possibly two amendments and, depending upon how you decide this, there may be a second one. I encourage you in thinking about this to exclude, for the moment, the role of the city of Lincoln, because everybody as a whole was in agreement that there needed to be an accommodation for Lincoln and for Blair, possibly, which has also bonded, and that accommodation everybody agrees to can be done in one of two ways. It can be done with this first amendment that we're talking about, or it can be done with a second technical amendment. So if you reject the first amendment, then there will be a second technical amendment that everybody agrees to, to accommodate all of the different cities in the League of Municipalities, but that won't be necessary if you vote yes on this particular amendment. Now with all that preface, let me try to tell you what the facts are here, and I'm hoping if you will, for those of you who like visual things like I do, if you'll pick up this sheet that says "MIRF Alternatives," you can follow along on that as well as listening. But on that sheet I tried to point out, first of all, current language, and by that I mean...by that I mean what happens if you adopt the committee amendments and adopt the bill with the committee amendment, and what's shown there, under current language, is what happens. Now remember that this is a little more complicated because LB 407, the mainline appropriations bill, is affected. It has to be a two-step kind of process. So I'm trying to show you here what happens with LB 407, the mainline bill, under the proposed Appropriations Committee solution, and then what happens under LB 440. So under LB 407 we have cut state aid to municipalities. Now that's not MIRF. That's a separate program. We cut state aid to municipalities by \$3 million, which happens to be the very same size as 100 percent of the MIRF funds, okay? So we cut state aid to municipalities by \$3 million. Now, with the Appropriations Committee amendment, MIRF would continue for a two-year period, at which point it would come to an end. MIRF ends after two years. That's the key point. Now down under